

In The Claims:

Sub C1 → 1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system for selectively setting a variable operating parameter in of a vehicle device and a corresponding non-vehicle device for an operator of the vehicle device and the non-vehicle device, the system comprising:

a portable information storage device having a storage element, means for receiving information representative of an operator's preference for a particular operating parameter for the vehicle device and storing the received information on the storage element, and means for generating an output signal based on the stored information;

B1 a vehicle interface connected to an on-board vehicle control system having the variable operating parameter, the vehicle interface arranged to receive the output signal generated by the portable storage device for input to the on-board vehicle control system, wherein the on-board vehicle control system is arranged to set a value of the variable operating value parameter for the vehicle device based on the information in the input signal;

wherein the portable information storage device further includes means for receiving, from the vehicle interface, information representative of vehicle usage of the vehicle device by the operator, and means for storing the information representative of the vehicle usage of the vehicle device by the operator; and

a non-vehicle interface connected to an off-board non-vehicle control system, and arranged to receive the output signal generated by the portable storage device for input to the off-board non-vehicle control system, and further arranged to access the stored information representative of the vehicle usage of the vehicle device by the operator, wherein the off-board non-vehicle control system is arranged to set a value of the variable operating value parameter for the non-vehicle device corresponding to the vehicle device based on the information in the input signal and the information representative of vehicle usage of the vehicle device by the operator.

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 1 wherein the means for receiving information and the means for generating an output signal are wireless communication devices.

4. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The system of claim 1 wherein the operating parameter comprises a user preference for at least one of the following: radio preset; climate setting; seat position; mirror position; suspension setting; power train setting; cellular telephone preset; digital audio file play list; service history or schedule; preferred service provider for an a non-vehicle provided service; authentication information for e-commerce; vehicle access control; calendar reminder; wireless access setting such as Internet Service Provider (ISP); and vehicle service appointment scheduling based on a user's preferred day or location.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system for selectively setting a variable user preference in a vehicle system and a corresponding non-vehicle system comprising:

a portable information storage device arranged to receive and store information representative of at least one user preference for the vehicle system, and further arranged to receive and store information representative of vehicle usage of the vehicle system by the user;

a vehicle interface connected to an on-board vehicle control system capable of being set in accordance with a user preference, wherein the vehicle interface is arranged to receive user preference information for the vehicle system from the portable storage device for input to the on-board vehicle control system, and the on-board ~~operating~~ vehicle control system is arranged to set the vehicle system based on the received user preference information for the vehicle system; and

a non-vehicle interface connected to an off-board non-vehicle control system, and arranged to receive the user preference information for the vehicle system and the vehicle system usage information from the portable information storage device for input to the off-board ~~operating~~ non-vehicle control system, wherein the off-board ~~operating~~ non-vehicle control system is arranged to set the non-vehicle system corresponding to the vehicle system based on the received user preference information for the vehicle system and the received vehicle system usage information.

6. (CANCELLED)

7. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 5 wherein the portable information storage device and the vehicle interface are arranged to communicate wirelessly.

8. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The system of claim 5 wherein the user preference comprises at least one of the following: radio preset; climate setting; seat position; mirror position; suspension setting; power train setting; cellular telephone preset; digital audio file play list; service history or schedule; preferred service provider for an a non-vehicle provided service; authentication information for e-commerce; vehicle access control; calendar reminder; wireless access setting such as Internet Service Provider (ISP); and vehicle service appointment scheduling based on a user's preferred day or location.

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9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of selectively setting a variable user preference in a vehicle system and a corresponding non-vehicle system comprising:

determining at least one user preference for the vehicle system and ~~vehicle~~ usage of the vehicle system by the user;

storing information representative of the at least one user preference for the vehicle system and the user's ~~vehicle~~ usage of the vehicle system on a portable information storage device;

selectively recalling the user preference for the vehicle system information and the user's ~~vehicle~~ usage of the vehicle system information stored on the portable information storage device;

setting ~~an on-board~~ the vehicle system in accordance with the recalled user preference information for the vehicle system; and

setting a the non-vehicle system corresponding to the vehicle system in accordance with the recalled user preference for the vehicle system information and the recalled user's ~~vehicle~~ usage of the vehicle system information.

10. (CANCELLED)

11. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 further comprising storing information representative of changes to the user preference on the portable information storage device upon user command.

12. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 further comprising automatically storing information representative of changes to the user preference on the portable information storage device.

13. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9 wherein the user preference comprises at least one of the following: radio preset; climate setting; seat position; mirror position; suspension setting; power train setting; cellular telephone preset; digital audio file play list; maintenance history or schedule; preferred service provider for an a non-vehicle provided service; authentication information for e-commerce; vehicle access control; calendar reminder; wireless access setting such as Internet Service Provider (ISP); and vehicle service appointment scheduling based on a user's preferred day or location.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A portable information storage device for use with a on-board vehicle control system arranged to selectively set a variable operating parameter in a vehicle system for an operator of the vehicle, and for use with an off-board non-vehicle control system arranged to selectively set a variable operating parameter in a non-vehicle system corresponding to the vehicle system, said portable information storage device comprising:

a storage element;

means for receiving information representative of an operator's preference for a particular operating parameter for the vehicle system and storing the received information representative of the particular operating parameter for the vehicle system on the storage element;

means for receiving information representative of vehicle usage of the vehicle system by the operator and storing the received information representative of the vehicle usage of the vehicle system by the operator on the storage element; and

means for generating an output signal based on the stored information, wherein the portable information storage device is arranged to interface with an on-board vehicle control system having the variable operating parameter, the on-board control system arranged to set the variable operating value of the vehicle system based on the information in the generated output signal;

wherein the portable information storage device is arranged to interface with a an off-board non-vehicle control system, the off-board non-vehicle control system is arranged to set a variable operating value of the non-vehicle system corresponding to the vehicle system based on the information in the generated output signal.

15. (CANCELLED)

16. (ORIGINAL) The storage device of claim 14 wherein the means for receiving information and the means for generating an output signal are wireless communication devices.

17. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The storage device of claim 14 wherein the operating parameter comprises a user preference for at least one of the following: radio preset; climate setting; seat position; mirror position; suspension setting; power train setting; cellular telephone preset; digital audio file play list; service history or schedule; preferred service provider for an a non-vehicle provided service; authentication information for e-commerce; vehicle access control; calendar reminder; wireless access setting such as Internet Service Provider (ISP); and vehicle service appointment scheduling based on a user's preferred day or location.